

Appl. No. 10/052,898
Amdt. Dated January 9, 2004
Preliminary Amendment
Docket No.: SO981-RAKE (CONT)

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph 1 with the following amended paragraph:

1 The present application is a ~~continuation~~ continuation-in-part of U.S. Utility Patent Application Ser. No. 09/464,318 filed December 16, 1999, and claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 60/113,060 filed December 21, 1998.

Please replace paragraph 4 with the following amended paragraph:

4 United States Patent # 5,727,279 discloses a tool for grading, leveling, and sealing wet concrete. The grading head is triangular, hollow, made of aluminum, floats on top of the wet concrete, and is attached to a long handle. The head is attached to the handle through an attachment block. There are also support members that maintain the ~~head's~~ head's position with respect to the handle. In this invention, the angle between the leg of the triangular head that accomplishes leveling and the leg that performs the smoothing function cannot be varied to accommodate surface-sensitive smoothing. Also, there is no way to vary the material of which the smoothing surface is constructed, allowing for both drawing up the paste in the mixture and smoothing in one leveling cycle.

Please replace paragraph 5 with the following amended paragraph:

5 United States Patent # 4,397,581 discloses an aluminum hand trowel/bull float that combines features of grooving, leveling, and smoothing in one tool. The float has a handle that can be lengthened and the angle of the handle with respect to the float can be adjusted so that a worker can level the concrete at close range or from a distance. The moving and shifting of concrete by means of this device is accomplished through front and back ~~walls~~ walls vertically extending from the surface of the float. This device also accommodates weights. As in the previous invention, the angle between the leveling surface and the smoothing surface is constant, and there is no variation of materials possible to accommodate drawing up of paste from the mixture.